

the amount provided in this Act for "Aviation Security";

"No" on rollcall 273 on the Markey amendment numbered 10 printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to prohibit the use of funds in the bill to approve, renew or implement any aviation cargo security plan that permits the transportation of unscreened or uninspected cargo on passenger planes;

"No" on rollcall 274 on the Velazquez amendment which sought to prohibit the use of funds from being used by the Federal Protective Service to replace any existing contract for security guard services with statewide contracts for security guard services;

"Yes" on rollcall 275 making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes;

"Yes" on rollcall 276 expressing the gratitude of the House of Representatives for the contributions made by America's community banks to the Nation's economic well-being and prosperity and the sense of the House of Representatives that a month should be designated as "Community Banking Month";

"Yes" on rollcall 277 passing the Helping Hands for Homeownership Act;

"Yes" on rollcall 278 Congratulating Randy Johnson of the Arizona Diamondbacks on pitching a perfect game on May 18, 2004.

COMMENDING LEXINGTON POLICE CHIEF MIKE ROTH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend a public servant of 31 years, Chief William M. (Mike) Roth of the Lexington, South Carolina Police Department. Under his leadership, the Lexington Police Department grew from a force of ten to thirty-one officers that currently serve a population of 16,000 citizens. His innovative approaches to criminal justice issues have resulted in the establishment of a full-time traffic unit, an Emergency Service (SWAT) Team, and the institution of Community-Oriented Policing.

Chief Roth was also personally responsible for the establishment of the Department's Investigative Division that includes a Child and Elder Abuse Investigator and a full-time Victims Advocate. Additionally, he was instrumental in the creation of such local school-based programming as School Resource Officers and DARE classes for elementary and middle school students.

Under Chief Roth's leadership, the Department received many awards and recognitions, developed and implemented the "Adopt-a-Cop" development, and contributed to the establishment of the Lexington Keeping Every Youth Safe (KEYS) after-school program.

His hands-on approach to law enforcement management and dedication to the community serves as an example for other police departments to follow.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th.

RECOGNIZING TOMMY PILIOURAS AND THE MARGARITA GRILL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. I rise today to recognize a patriotic small business owner in my district that I had the pleasure of meeting last week.

Tommy Piliouras of Citrus County owns and operates the Margarita Grill in Homosassa, Florida. I arrived at his restaurant to find a line of eager people happy to wait as long as necessary for a table in his restaurant. All customers receive an American flag, and patriotic music plays throughout the restaurant which is decorated in red, white, and blue.

Mr. Piliouras runs the Margarita Grill along with his son, Sammy. The two of them chat and interact with customers at their tables and lead the crowd in singing patriotic songs while everyone waves the American flag. For patrons unwilling to wave the American flag, the restaurant plays "Hit the Road Jack" long enough for them to take their business elsewhere.

Tommy Piliouras came to America in 1958 from his native country of Greece and is proud to be an American. He appreciates the American way of life that many take for granted. His sense of family, community, and hard work truly exemplify the American spirit. It is refreshing and comforting to see such grateful, proud Americans.

I am pleased to have such loyal, appreciative Americans living in the communities of my district, and I am honored to recognize Tommy Piliouras and the Margarita Grill on the floor of this House today.

HONORING RICHARD S. AGNEW

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the stories of our veterans should be preserved for future generations. These accounts will serve as a valuable record of the price of freedom.

Richard S. ("Dick") Agnew, of Plano, Texas is a shining example of the American veteran. He's dedicated fifty-seven years of patriotic service to our nation and his fellow veterans . . . all without much fanfare or tribute.

Well, today that's about to change as the country and the Congress say, "Thank you."

In 1947, Mr. Agnew enlisted in the U.S. Army and served proudly with Airborne Infantry units. He rose through the ranks and was commissioned through Officer Candidate School as a Second Lieutenant in 1952. He served in combat in Korea with the 40th Infantry Division in what was dubbed the bloody Heartbreak Ridge sector.

On the night of July 19, 1953, Lieutenant Agnew engaged in hand-to-hand combat with enemy soldiers deep behind enemy lines. For his extraordinary heroism in that engagement, he was awarded the U.S. Army's Distinguished Service Cross, our nation's second highest award for valor, and the Purple Heart

medal for the wounds he sustained in that life-and-death struggle. Dick Agnew endured what people today only watch in movies.

Promoted to Captain while on active duty, Agnew later attained the rank of Major in the U.S. Army Reserve. After he left active duty, Mr. Agnew attended Suffolk University in Boston, MA, from 1961–1964. He graduated Cum Laude in the top 3% of his class with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. A successful career in business ended with his retirement in 1996.

Mr. Agnew has devoted his life to promoting patriotism and improving the quality of life of his fellow veterans. He is the North Texas Commander of the Legion of Valor, a national organization chartered by Congress, whose members were awarded the Medal of Honor; also the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, and Air Force Cross.

It is a tremendous honor to recognize an unsung hero like Dick Agnew. You know, there was an inscription on the wall where I was held captive as a Prisoner of War in Vietnam—and I think it sums up Dick Agnew's experience. It read—Freedom has a taste to those who fight and almost die for it that the protected will never know. Dick Agnew knows about freedom. Dick Agnew loves that freedom. And Dick Agnew loves America.

God bless him and God bless America.

I'd like to insert his medal citation into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED- SERVICE CROSS

By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul 43, 1913), and pursuant to authority in AR 600-45, the Distinguished-Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action is awarded in the name of the Commander-in-Chief, Far East, to:

First Lieutenant RICHARD S. AGNEW, 01925377, Infantry, United States Army. Lieutenant AGNEW, a member of an infantry company, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Mundung-ni, Korea. On the night of 19 July 1953, Lieutenant AGNEW, was serving as the leader of a combat patrol operating far ahead of the United Nations main line of resistance when he and the assistant patrol leader fell from a cliff. Although his ankle was painfully injured and he was in enemy territory, Lieutenant AGNEW ordered the patrol to return to friendly lines and establish plans to rejoin allied forces the following evening. The following night, Lieutenant AGNEW and his comrade scaled the cliff and proceeded toward United Nations territory. When challenged by an enemy soldier, Lieutenant AGNEW fearlessly hurled a hand grenade. He was wounded and separated from his companion when the enemy retaliated with a hail of small arms and grenade fire. Confronted by an enemy soldier armed with a knife, Lieutenant AGNEW ignored his weakened condition, engaged him in hand to hand combat and killed him with his own weapon. Hearing other enemy forces advancing, Lieutenant AGNEW then pulled the pin on his remaining hand grenade and tied it to his hand before falling to the ground in exhaustion. He was later found in a semi-conscious condition by a United Nations patrol. The extraordinary heroism exhibited by Lieutenant AGNEW on this occasion reflects great credit on himself and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service. Entered the Federal service from Massachusetts.

IN HONOR OF GIRLS INC.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor the achievements of Girls Inc. on the celebration of its 50th Anniversary.

Girls Inc. is a nonprofit youth organization dedicated to providing important educational programs to young women, particularly those in high-risk, underserved areas. Throughout the years, Girls Inc. has been a key influence in the lives of millions of Americans and it has helped many wonderful young Delawareans achieve their hopes and dreams.

The programs of Girls Inc. work to improve math and science education, drug abuse prevention, media literacy, economic literacy, adolescent health, violence prevention, and sports participation. In addition, Girls Inc. promotes health and safety initiatives through programs such as "Will Power/Won't Power," which addresses teen pregnancy and "Action for Safety," which teaches teens to become advocates for issues affecting young women. It also hosts outreach programs that are designed for young women who live in public housing.

During the past 50 years, Girls Inc. has done much to address critical issues facing young women across the nation. In Delaware, the important work of Girls Inc. should not go unnoticed. Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Girls Inc. for their dedication to improving and enhancing the lives of women. Its contribution in Delaware should serve as an example to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, because of an emergency in my district, I missed rollcall vote Nos. 276, 277, and 278. If present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 276, 277, and 278.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ASHCROFT
POLITICIZES THE WAR ON
TERRORISM**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the attached column by Paul Krugman in today's New York Times. Mr. Krugman describes how the Attorney General has politicized the war on terrorism.

[From the New York Times, June 22, 2004]

NOONDAY IN THE SHADE

(By Paul Krugman)

In April 2003, John Ashcroft's Justice Department disrupted what appears to have

been a horrifying terrorist plot. In the small town of Noonday, Tex., F.B.I. agents discovered a weapons cache containing fully automatic machine guns, remote-controlled explosive devices disguised as briefcases, 60 pipe bombs and a chemical weapon—a cyanide bomb—big enough to kill everyone in a 30,000-square-foot building.

Strangely, though, the attorney general didn't call a press conference to announce the discovery of the weapons cache, or the arrest of William Krar, its owner. He didn't even issue a press release. This was, to say the least, out of character. Jose Padilla, the accused "dirty bomber," didn't have any bomb-making material or even a plausible way to acquire such material, yet Mr. Ashcroft put him on front pages around the world. Mr. Krar was caught with an actual chemical bomb, yet Mr. Ashcroft acted as if nothing had happened.

Incidentally, if Mr. Ashcroft's intention was to keep the case low-profile, the media have been highly cooperative. To this day, the Noonday conspiracy has received little national coverage.

At this point, I have the usual problem. Writing about John Ashcroft poses the same difficulties as writing about the Bush administration in general, only more so: the truth about his malfeasance is so extreme that it's hard to avoid sounding shrill.

In this case, it sounds over the top to accuse Mr. Ashcroft of trying to bury news about terrorists who don't fit his preferred story line. Yet it's hard to believe that William Krar wouldn't have become a household name if he had been a Muslim, or even a leftist. Was Mr. Ashcroft, who once gave an interview with Southern Partisan magazine in which he praised "Southern patriots" like Jefferson Davis, reluctant to publicize the case of a terrorist who happened to be a white supremacist?

More important, is Mr. Ashcroft neglecting real threats to the public because of his ideological biases?

Mr. Krar's arrest was the result not of a determined law enforcement effort against domestic terrorists, but of a fluke: when he sent a package containing counterfeit U.N. and Defense Intelligence Agency credentials to an associate in New Jersey, it was delivered to the wrong address. Luckily, the recipient opened the package and contacted the F.B.I. But for that fluke, we might well have found ourselves facing another Oklahoma City-type atrocity.

The discovery of the Texas cyanide bomb should have served as a wake-up call: 9/11 has focused our attention on the threat from Islamic radicals, but murderous right-wing fanatics are still out there. The concerns of the Justice Department, however, appear to lie elsewhere. Two weeks ago a representative of the F.B.I. appealed to an industry group for help in combating what, he told the audience, the F.B.I. regards as the country's leading domestic terrorist threat: ecological and animal rights extremists.

Even in the fight against foreign terrorists, Mr. Ashcroft's political leanings have distorted policy. Mr. Ashcroft is very close to the gun lobby—and these ties evidently trump public protection. After 9/11, he ordered that all government lists—including voter registration, immigration and driver's license lists—be checked for links to terrorists. All government lists, that is, except one: he specifically prohibited the F.B.I. from examining background checks on gun purchasers.

Mr. Ashcroft told Congress that the law prohibits the use of those background checks for other purposes—but he didn't tell Congress that his own staff had concluded that no such prohibition exists. Mr. Ashcroft issued a directive, later put into law requir-

ing that records of background checks on gun buyers be destroyed after only one business day.

And we needn't imagine that Mr. Ashcroft was deeply concerned about protecting the public's privacy. After all, a few months ago he took the unprecedented step of subpoenaing the hospital records of women who have had late-term abortions.

After my last piece on Mr. Ashcroft, some readers questioned whether he is really the worst attorney general ever. It's true that he has some stiff competition from the likes of John Mitchell, who served under Richard Nixon. But once the full record of his misdeeds in office is revealed, I think Mr. Ashcroft will stand head and shoulders below the rest.

LET'S MAKE AMERICA'S
INFRASTRUCTURE A PRIORITY BEFORE
IRAQ'S**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, clean water is again flowing into the Tigris River thanks to the U.S. Taxpayer and the good people from my home State of West Virginia. How grand, how good, how generous the Cheney-Bush bunch can be, until it comes to investing between America's shores.

Yes, health and welfare is on the mend from Baghdad to Kirkuk, but for our communities in Southern West Virginia, this Administration has no money.

I recommend to my colleagues a story on the front page of the New York Times this past Saturday by James Glanz. According to the article this project has been cloaked in secret for security reasons. I agree, it's for security alright, to secure the Cheney-Bush reelection. They don't want the American people to know that they build in Baghdad while we weep in Appalachia for clean streams, a healthy environment, and a safe harbor for our children.

Last week, another decision was made to deny the people of West Virginia, and of Appalachia, clean water, better health and education, as the House Appropriations Committee voted to cut the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) funding by 40 percent following on the heels of an effort by the Cheney-Bush boys last year to cut it by 50 percent.

Apparently the Cheney-Bush bunch, including their cronies in Congress, don't think twice about sending \$4 billion to Iraq for their water infrastructure needs, but are unwilling to provide the ARC less than 1/100th of that amount for services that do the same and more for West Virginia.

I can name a few better places to spend our taxpayers money.

In Raleigh County, just one of our wastewater projects is going to cost \$22.5 million to serve 1200 new customers in the Glen Daniel/Fairdale area. This is a matter of public health, of bringing in new jobs, fueling the economy. Where is the money for that program?

Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg is 35 years old, and in need of a new terminal. The upgrade is expected to cost \$15 million. Where is the money for Lewisburg?

Greenbrier Valley Airport's parking apron used for housing aircrafts, also needs a \$10